

REMARKS

Withdrawn claims 5, 6, 10, 11, 13, 14, 16, 17 and 19 have been canceled. Claim 7 has also been canceled. Claims 1-4, 8, 9, 12, 15 and 18 remain pending in this patent application. Claims 1, 8, 15 and 18 have been amended.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant notes with appreciation the Examiner's recognition of allowable subject matter in claims 7, 8, 15 and 18. Applicant has thus amended claim 1 to include the allowable subject matter of claim 7 and has canceled claim 7. Applicant has also amended claim 8 so that claim 8 is now dependent on amended claim 1 instead of canceled claim 7.

Applicant has rewritten allowable claim 15 to include the features of base claim 1 and the features of intervening claim 2.

Applicant has also rewritten allowable claim 18 to include the features of base claim 1 and the features of intervening claim 3.

For reasons presented above, Applicant submits that all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

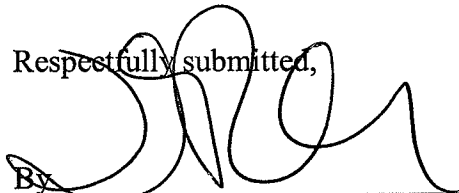
In view of the above amendment and remarks, Applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application; the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Charu K. Mehta, Reg. No. 62,913 at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.147; particularly, extension of time fees.

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Respectfully submitted,



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